THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The principal commodities exported/ being exported to Pakistan including Iron Ore, Tea, Spices, Oil meals, Cement etc.

The principal commodities imported from Pakistan into India include fruits & nuts, oil seeds, wool raw, metaliferrous ores, metal scraps etc.

(c) The trend of our exports to Pakistan during the recent months shows that our exports to Pakistan are going up.

(d) In the Second and Third Meeting of the Sub-Commission on Trade of Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission held in August, 1987 and July, 1989 respectively, India reiterated that Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment should be accorded to Indian exporters by Pakistan in accordance with their obligations under GATT in order to facilitate free competition with other countries in items being imported by Pakistan. Further, India offered to send delegations to Pakistan in the field of tea and textile machinery/components. It also suggested co-operation in the field of automotive components. Substantial quantities of cement have recently been exported to Pakistan.

(e) India has been according MFN treatment in respect of trade with Pakistan continuously since 1976.

Chapter on Cooperation in the Eighth Five Year Plan

169. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a chapter on cooperation was proposed to be adopted in the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, what is the progress made in this regard ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c) In view of the important role of cooperatives in economic development in general and in agriculture sector in particular, substantial sections have been incorporated on Cooperation in the Chapter on "Agriculture & Allied Activities" of Volume II of the Eighth Five Year Plan Document.

Export of Marine Products

*170. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that through the value of export of Indian marine products has rise considerably, India accounts for only around 1.7 per cent of the global sea food market ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take take encourage the growth of product industry ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Our share in the global market for marine products is less than 2%.

(b) The production from capture sources has remained more or less static while the consumption of fishery products both within the country and outside has been increasing rapidly.

(c) Marine products have been identified as a thrust area for export promotion. Among the marine products exported shrimp is the dominant item. In order to augment the production of shrimp, aquaculture has been identified as an extreme focus area. Deep sea fishing, especially for diversified resources like tuna is also being developed to enhance the export potential. Export of IQF shrimp and other value added products are encouraged for realising more foreign exchange. Various schemes are being implemented by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in these 3 thrust areas identified for stepping up exports of marine products i.e., deep sea fishing, aquaculture and production of value added marine products.